Dear Parents and Students,

During the last week I have had the pleasure of attending three orientation sessions within the School.

• Year 7 students and families
• Students and families new to Sturt Street
• VCE students

At these sessions it has been obvious to me that the vast majority of our students have settled into their new environments well and are happily and productively working. I would like to thank the parents who made themselves available for these evenings. The need for good communications between home and school is essential and as part of this we offer opportunities for Parent/Teacher meetings.

The date set for the Unit 3 evening is Wednesday, March 28. The dates for the Years 7-11 evenings will be early Term 2 and will be confirmed in the information sent to you with the Interim Reports. Please make it a priority for your family to attend these important evenings.

Last Friday evening I attended the Len Brookman Awards for VCE Art. Work from four of our VCE Art students from last year was selected for exhibition and to my delight and amazement all four of our students received prizes in their category.

• Lisa Rumler – Ceramics
• Mairead Murphy – 3D Art
• Erin McPherson – 2D Art
• Emily French – Mixed Medium

Congratulations to these students and to their teacher, Mr Tony Griffin, who each year creates a studio atmosphere that is encouraging, creative and stimulating. This is another very important and consistent aspect of our success in the VCE program.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs) Anne Fry
PRINCIPAL

VCE RESULTS 2000
Stephen Hill

Th success of last year’s VCE class continues the level of academic excellence which the students of Loreto College have been able to sustain over an extended period of time. The following summary clearly highlights the level of achievement of the Class of 2000:

• 115 students completed Year 12 in 2000. All obtained their VCE.
• 77 Year 11 students successfully completed Unit 3/4 studies.
• There were 117 study scores of 40 or above achieved by the students. This equates to 18% of all study scores being 40 or above.
• This 18% ranks Loreto Ballarat equal fifth of all Catholic schools in the State (or the top 6% of Catholic schools). Only Loreto Mandeville Hall (27%), Sacre Coeur (25%), Genazzano (22%) and Xavier (20%) ranked higher.
• This study score result also ranks us in the top 11% of schools across the State (from the 481 schools who offered VCE in 2000).
• 23 students attained an ENTER of over 90 (or 20% of the class).
• The highest ENTER of 99.3 was achieved by Anita Kleinig.
• The average ENTER was 73.65.

For the past three years, over 40% of the students have received an ENTER of 80 plus. Such scores allow the students to more freely explore the vast array of opportunities which exist in life beyond Loreto College.

This level of success is a reflection of the time and effort each of our VCE teachers has given and the way in which the students have responded to the challenge of attaining academic excellence. These results also highlight the importance of the learning strategies developed by the students’ Years 7-10 teachers. All members of the Loreto College Community can feel very proud of this achievement and the part they have played in it.

IMPORTANT DATES TERM 1, 2001

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 20</td>
<td>Twilight Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Monday, February 26</td>
<td>Year 9 Retreats commence</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 27</td>
<td>Fathers &amp; Daughters Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 4</td>
<td>Years 10,11 &amp; 12 Retreats commence</td>
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<td>Friday, April 6</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
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At the Opening School Assembly Anita Kleinig (Dux of Class of 2000) delivered an address to the students. I include an extract for your consideration.

“Loreto College is offering each of you so much more than just the multiplication tables and Shakespeare. Not many of us are likely to make a career out of just our Year 12 subjects, instead, out of all of the multitudes of other experiences offered. I think that the best way to help discover your own possibilities while at school is to immerse yourself in as much of the Loreto culture as you can – music, debating, sport, public speaking, social justice, leadership etc. Make the most out of everything that is thrown your way and decide for yourself what you can get out of it. Complete a career aptitude test, go on an Edmund Rice camp, become a Peer Mediator, maybe you really are meant to be a sculptor after all. The list of things I have done is massive and I feel so much more prepared for the future because of it. Without involving myself in all that I have, I might have been accepted into my course, but I do not think that I would feel nearly as ready. Just notch up as many experiences as you can while you are here, because it is these you will carry with you for the rest of your life and will be the building blocks for your future. When you finally do leave Loreto College it is great to harbor no regrets – make sure you do try everything that you wanted to, because once your time is up, there is no going back.

I believe that success at Loreto College can be found by stepping out towards your possibilities on offer and realising what it really is that you wish to achieve, what is right for you. I believe that my being successful at Loreto College was not solely my ENTER, but through many opportunities that were provided for me to experience being a leader, a helper, a musician, an organiser, a teacher and a friend. Combined, these aspects have all given me direction and meaning and have helped me define what I am looking for in life. I learnt that my, and your, possibilities are endless and each of us must embrace our chances even if this means stepping out beyond what we know or are comfortable with, beyond the horizon.”

The Year 7 camp and alternate program started today. Barry and Mulhall students are enjoying themselves at Log Cabin Lodge in Creswick. The students in Mornane and Ward will be following a school based alternative program. This will be reversed next week.

Below is an extract from Georgina’s experiences at the National Youth Science Forum.

“When I gained a place at the National Youth Science Forum I was happy, but at the same time I had no idea what to expect. The two weeks at the University of Canberra turned out to be an exceptional time.

Visiting the various Universities, industries and businesses was a worthwhile activity. Being able to have some hands on experience and to ask as many questions as I liked about the occupations, enabled me to gain knowledge of the vast variety of career options available. There have been so many different pathways opened up to me, that before, I would never have considered.

The National Youth Science Forum for me was more than an amazing experience. It was not simply the fact that it brought 144 students from around Australia and also around the world together to learn about careers in Science. It was the fact that it gave so much advice, so many skills, priceless friendships and much more. I feel I have gained a great deal from the National Youth Science Forum. I have not only gained advice and skills, but also some great friendships and experiences, which I will remember for a long time to come. The National Youth Science Forum had three ways for us to gain the most from the two-week forum; to meet everyone, participate and to contribute. These were certainly undertaken by each student.

The National Youth Science Forum was a fantastic experience and one that I feel privileged to have been a part of.”
Despite saying adieu to our inaugural week back at school, the Senate students have flung themselves headfirst into a torrent of new projects. Last week saw us lunching with Ms Cheryl Hamilton, the newly appointed Marryatville Principal (Loreto Adelaide), attempting to adopt recycling into the school and introducing the staff and students to this year’s theme of Sincerity.

This week has also proven to be one of epic calibre. It has been a wish of the 2001 Senate to implement the provision of breakfast for those students affected by either bus times or early morning school commitments. This Tuesday morning saw us running the breakfast on a trial basis, replenishing these students with our rather ‘ravishing’ menu and marvellous hospitality skills. We are anticipating continuing this on a more regular basis throughout the year.

We are also planning to begin a project that has been discussed quite frequently of late. In order to receive more year level based feedback on anything happening in the school, we are planning to visit RE classes to talk to the students in what will hopefully become what I like to call ‘semesterly tarries’. At Dawson Street, we are devising an afternoon whereby we can spend time with the Years 7 and 8 students completing a similar process. Hopefully, this will provide us with an insight into most students’ ideas and constructive criticisms concerning Loreto life.

At last week’s Assembly, in very trying conditions, we were also given the opportunity to present two students and one staff member with the continued tradition of Elizabeth Metternich Awards. We believe this encouragement for both students and staff is extremely important and hope to continue the awards on a monthly basis.

I would like to congratulate the recipients on receiving the February awards and compliment them on their individual contributions to the School.

- Katherine Shields (Year 11) for her general demeanour and optimistic approach to all aspects of school life.
- Jessica Davey (Year 12) for her recent success at the State Swimming Championships.
- Miss Kerri Loader for her students’ high level of achievement for VCE Health 2001 and her contribution to the Loreto College Concert Band.

Conveyance Allowance is available to students who live more than 4.8km from the College and travel on a bus on which they pay a fare, or come by car. The Allowance is also available to those students who travel more than 4.8km to the bus stop of a free bus. The Allowance is not available to those parents who choose to drive their daughter to school when a free Government bus operates in their area. Students eligible for the Conveyance Allowance in 2001 will receive a full refund of the fares.

It is imperative that students travelling by bus provide proof of travel by presenting their ticket to the School Office. Half yearly/yearly tickets will be photocopied, attached to the Conveyance form and the original returned to the student. Students buying weekly or monthly tickets must bring a number of tickets to be attached to the form. No form can be processed until all details are attended to.

Completed application forms must be returned to the School by Monday, February 26, 2001 to be included in the first claim.

A belated thankyou to Joy Blair, Ann Prowse and daughter Emma for their assistance at last year’s Teachers and Staff Thankyou. It was much appreciated.

Week beginning Monday, February 19, 2001

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<tr>
<th>Sturt Street</th>
<th>Dawson Street</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon: J Crowe, B Salter, T Berry</td>
<td>H Fersch J Clarke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues: G Dyer, J Cosgriff</td>
<td>S Boswerger, K Bigarelli</td>
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<td>Wed: A Stevenson, S Fraser, C Drake</td>
<td>E Britt, M Griffin</td>
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<td>Thurs: D Dean, V Bailey</td>
<td>L Blenkiron, J Shepherd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri: C Niall, L Slocombe</td>
<td>F Peerman, L Elford</td>
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Parents are still required to complete Education Maintenance Allowance Application forms for the first instalment of 2001, and also supply a photocopy of their valid Centrelink card to the school. Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid by Loreto College in the first instalment of 2001, will not be required to complete an extra application for the second instalment.

To be eligible the claimant must be a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of 16 and hold a current Centrelink Pensioner Concession or Health Care Benefit Card or be a Foster Parent as at the first day of Term 1.

As the EMA is provided to assist low-income families, any Centrelink payments that are not income tested e.g., Child Disability Allowance, Mobility Allowance and Remote Area Allowance are not eligible unless the claimant also holds and applies with a current Centrelink Pensioner Concession or Health Care Card or a Veterans Affairs (TPI) Pensioner Card or is a Foster Parent on the first day of Term 1 for the first instalment and on the first day of Term 3 for the second instalment.

Application forms for the first instalment must be submitted by parents to the school no later than Friday March 2, 2001. The school will not accept late claims. An annual amount of $127.00 for primary and $254.00 for secondary students is payable in two instalments, each on a 50% to the parent and 50% to the school basis.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE MAGAZINE
This magazine is to commemorate the 26 years of the Seminary at Clayton. It includes 136 pages of coloured photos and write-ups from past students and also about the different Dioceses. This publication is priced at $15.00 each plus $5.00 postage and handling. Please contact St Mary’s Parish Office on 5222 1977 if you would like to place an order.

THE MEN AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAM
The Men and Family Relationships Program at Child and Family Services Ballarat has planned another busy year of activities.

Some of the activities for the year are as follows:-
May  
Family Fun Day

September  
Father’s Day awards

October  
A Conference for Professionals

November  
Cup Day Family Picnic

The Men and Family Relationships forthcoming program entitled Parenting Adolescents – Dad’s The Vital Factor will commence on Monday, February 26 for four weeks (excluding Labour Day public holiday) at Child and Family Services Ballarat, 115 Lydiard Street North, Ballarat from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Cost – Gold coin donation. Phone Joan on 5332 1434 to register before February 21.

TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL
On Tuesday, February 20, the annual Loreto College Swimming Carnival will take place at Eureka Pool. The school day concludes at approximately 2.30pm to allow students to be transported by bus to the pool. The event is not compulsory, however, we encourage as many students as possible to come along and support their House. Ward House has been very successful for the past few years and this year we are looking forward to other Houses being very competitive. The carnival will start at approximately 3.15pm and conclude at 6.30pm. Those students who are not attending the carnival need to bring a note signed by parents/guardians giving them permission to leave at 2.30pm. Without a note and for bus travellers, students will be required to stay at both sites in the Library until 3.25pm. We look forward to a very enjoyable evening and welcome families along to support.

LORETO COLLEGE BATHERS
In preparation for the CHISSA Swimming Carnival and for all interested students we are currently taking orders for Loreto College bathers. These were introduced last year and were very successful. This year we have been able to improve the quality of the material to ensure that it is chlorine resistant and long lasting. The bathers are not compulsory, but students may like to consider them for P.E. in Years 7 and 8 as well as representing Loreto College at interschool events. The cost of the bathers is $44.00 and orders will be taken at both School Offices until Thursday February 22. P.E. staff have samples to try on.

SENIOR HENDERSON SHIELD
On Tuesday, February 20, Melissa Day (Year 12) and Tegan Lawless (Year 10) will represent Loreto College in the Senior Henderson Singles Tennis Championships. This is a very prestigious event and one in which we have a fine record. We wish both students all the best!

Congratulations to:

• Catherine Ranger (Year 12) on finishing second in the U/20 5km walk at the Victorian Titles at the weekend. Another terrific effort. Well done, Catherine!

• Katrina Braszell (Year 9) who has been successful in gaining selection in the U/16 Victorian Triathlon Team to compete at the National Titles.

This week the School Community was thrilled to witness Michelle Payne win at her very first racing start. Michelle has left Loreto College to concentrate on a very promising riding career. We are all very proud of her efforts and wish her all the best in her endeavours. A large group of students attended the races and were thrilled to share in such a special occasion.